

# THE EVENING

DOUBLE SHEET.]

## THIRD EDITION

PHILADELPHIA, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1864.

Sherman's Expedition.

Rebels Groaning Over the Prospective Fall of Savannah.

KILPATRICK'S BATTLES.

Etc., Etc., Etc., Etc., Etc., Etc.

**Sherman at Bloomingdale—The Rebel Position of Savannah Difficult to Hold.***From the Richmond Times, December 12.*

The latest we have from Sherman is that on Saturday he was at Bloomingdale on the Central Georgia Railroad, fifteen miles west of Savannah. It was not absolutely certain whether it was in his proportion to attack the city, to strike away down to the coast, or endeavor to force a passage of the Savannah river, en route for Port Royal.

Our position at Savannah is difficult, as involving the necessity of protecting both the city and some ten miles of the Savannah and Charlestion Railroad, which, leaving the city on the western side, runs east and crosses the river eight miles above Sherman's line. At left Miller has been following them and has cut otherwise obstruction the roads, to protect his rear from the remorseless ravages of Wheeler, who has hunted and hung upon him like a bloodhound.

**The Rebels Sighting over the Approach to Savannah.***From the Richmond Times, December 12.*

The mud draws high. The advance of Sherman's army was reported to be within twenty miles of Savannah yesterday afternoon. The fight for the possession of the city may be progressing to-day. General Beauregard commands the Confederate forces.

**General Kilpatrick's Battles.***From the Richmond Times, December 12.*

General McCook's advance guard had skirmished with General Lyon's rearguard at Elston.

Generals Stoneman and Burbridge have effected a junction at Boonesville, and will closely follow Breckinridge.

The cavalry of General Thomas' army, which crossed a few days since to the north side of the Cumberland river, was yesterday recrossed to the south side, with the exception of a sufficient force to pursue and rout any Rebel force on the north side of the river. The decision on the railroad has been so strengthened that no danger is apprehended.

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General Kilpatrick's Battles.

*From the Richmond Times, December 12.*

Hardly a day has passed that Wheeler has not engaged some portion of Sherman's army, and the boastful Kilpatrick has been whipped by him as often as he has fingers and toes. Besides fighting wherever he could find the enemy, roads have been cut, cattle and horses driven off, the people for warning sent to the rear, and the embankments and obstruct the invading. In this way Wheeler has rendered most valuable service to the cause, for it has given us time to complete defenses and bring up men. We are now ready for Sherman, and, suffice where he will, he will find a foe equal and able to cope with his hired and brutal mafions.

On Sunday last, the 4th instant, a battle was fought which exceeds in magnitude any that has characterized this campaign, and is therefore worthy of some particular mention. The 14th Massachusetts, supported by Kilpatrick's entire cavalry force, made an attack on Wheeler, a severe battle raged for several hours. At the moment of the assault Wheeler's line was very much extended, for the purpose of flanking; but he speedily brought his forces together and received the attack of the enemy with a vigor that made them stagger. Several times were they driven back by our men in counter charges and pursued from behind breastworks.

Finally, Wheeler, finding himself surrounded by a greater superior force, quietly and in good order withdrew and left the field to the enemy. The losses of the latter were heavy, and the blow cannot have failed greatly to cripple them. They captured a number of wagons, one a colonel, who was taken in a hand-to-hand fight. We also lost severely in officers and men, but in no proportion with the enemy. Among our killed was Colonel Graves, who, on the occasion, was acting as brigadier.

Of the present whereabouts of Sherman, it might gratify curiosity, but would do no good to speak. From his movements, we judge that he himself is not so sure of his latitude and longitude, suffice it to say that he has many days to go before he can be sure where he will be able to respond visibly to the roars of his friends on the coast, with a good prospect of having to fight his way through the entire ocean.

*From the Atlanta Constitution, December 12.*

Owing to the state of the atmosphere, the despatch of the gunboat was distinctly heard on Sunday morning in the direction of Waycross.

We have it in our power to present a brief, but authentic, explanation of those warlike results.

Pursuant to instructions, General Wheeler concentrated his cavalry force, and at midnight on Saturday, early upon the enemy's rear with a vim. The Yankee horsemen were precipitately driven back upon their infantry support. After harassing the infantry for some time, Wheeler retired to his fortifications.

At daylight on Sunday morning, Kilpatrick's cavalry, aided by the 14th Mass., advanced upon our cavalry. We were situated behind timber, brambles, and bushes, and prepared to meet the onset.

Every charge of the enemy was repulsed by fire and counter charges. Finally, desirous to carry our works by storm, notwithstanding their vastly superior numbers, the Yankees enveloped our flanks and made a retreat necessary. This retirement was accomplished in excellent order. Having reassembled their rear of a terrible incuse, the Yankees abandoned any further demonstration and continued their retreat.

Our loss was between seventy and eighty men.

The enemy's loss is reported officially as "very heavy." Among the wounded on our side, we are pleased to announce to you a wounding of Colonel Graves, Acting Brigadier. One of the Yankee officers was captured in a hand-to-hand encounter, and Kilpatrick himself was wounded.

Our officers and men bore well with the most distinguished gallantry, and, considering the disparity of force, achieved most brilliant results in retarding the march of the rebel column, and filling them with a well-grounded apprehension.

Afterwards, the impudent Wheeler had collected his men and was soon hacking away at the rear-guard.

**The Army of the James.***From the Richmond Dispatch, December 12.*

Rebels Retiring—The French Gunboat.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES, NEAR RICHMOND, Va., December 12.—The Rebel troops, which yesterday demonstrated on our right, were, this morning, all withdrawn, and our pickets have been to-day considerably advanced in that direction.

The French gunboat Adams, which arrived at Aiken's landing a week ago, remains still in the river. Two commercial agents of the French Government, who were permitted to visit Richmond, have this evening arrived at these headquarters, and I understand that the Adams will to-morrow leave with them on board.

**Despatch from Howard.***From the Richmond Dispatch, December 12.*

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF ARMY OF TENNESSEE, NEAR SAVANNAH, GEORGIA.—To the Commander of the Forces in the vicinity of Savannah, Georgia.

General Sherman was once a newsboy. That was when he learned to go to press early.—*E. D. TOWNSEND.*

Hon. Robert E. Fenton, Governor elect of New York, has resigned his seat in the United States House of Representatives.

The Poughkeepsie (N. Y.) is one of the latest victims to the inhumanity of paper dealers. It has stopped publication.

Miss Bateman has met her wonted success at Manchester, England. Her career is said to be a round of triumph.

Captain Duncan states that our forces were in contact with the Rebels a few miles outside of Savannah. He says Sherman's army is not in

want of anything. Perhaps no event could give greater satisfaction to the country than that which I announce, and I beg leave to congratulate the United States Government on its occurrence.

It may perhaps be exceeding my province, but I cannot refrain from expressing the hope that the Department will command Captain Duncan and his companions to the honorable Secretary of War for some mark of approbation for their success in establishing communication between General Sherman and the fleet. It was an enterprise that required both skill and courage.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. A. DAHLGREN,

Commanding South Atlantic Blockading Squadron.

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